

by that tribunal and the decision reversed.

The other papers consist of a communication from a citizen of Virginia of high character accompanied with affidavits, setting forth that a certain Matthew Little of Washington County, in this State is now in confinement in the jail of Huntington County in the State of Pennsylvania, awaiting his trial upon an indictment for kidnapping a negro. The facts, as stated, are that Matthew Little, together with two other persons, arrested in that County, a fugitive slave named Jacob Tuley, the property of Elizabeth W. Glass of Frederick County, and while in the act of conveying him to his owner, the slave was rescued from their hands, and set at liberty. That sometime afterwards Matthew Little having returned to Huntington County was arrested and imprisoned in the jail of that County, in a narrow cell, heavily ironed and treated in all respects as a felon. It is further stated that the trial of Little was continued from the last term of the Court of that County, notwithstanding his witnesses were all in attendance, until the January term, which will take place in a few weeks from this time; that Little is a poor man, and unable to employ and pay counsel to defend him. It is therefore suggested in these papers that it is the duty of the State of Maryland to provide him with counsel in order that he may be properly defended.

These cases present two instances out of very many others to show the obstacles that are constantly interposed to prevent the recapture of absconding slaves not only by the populace but by the judicial tribunals.

The whole subject is respectfully submitted for your consideration and action.

Philip F. Thomas

19th January 1850

The Governor this day upon upon the recommendation of the two justices of the peace before whom she was convicted pardoned Fannie Soller convicted of an assault and battery upon one Rosa Exister before two justices of the peace of the Magistrate Court at Calnville in Baltimore County and sentenced to pay a fine of ten dollars and to be imprisoned for the term of twelve days upon condition that she pay the fine of ten dollars.

The Governor this day having received from the Clerk of the House of Delegates a certified copy of the resolution of the General Assembly requesting him to issue a commission in the usual form to the Honorable Thomas G. Pratt as Senator to represent this State in the Congress of the United States until the 4th of March 1851 issued the following commission.

The State of Maryland

To the Senate of the United States Greeting:

Know ye that the General Assembly of the State of Maryland reposing special trust and confidence in the sound judgment and integrity of the Honorable Thomas G. Pratt of the State of Maryland have elected and appointed him one of the Senators to represent the said State in the Congress of the United States for the unexpired term of